



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
LANSING



DAN WYANT
DIRECTOR

June 7, 2013

Dr. Thomas Armitage, Designated Federal Officer
Science Advisory Board Staff Office
United States Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (1400R)
Washington, DC 20460-4164

Dear Dr. Armitage:

SUBJECT: Public Comment on the List of Candidates for the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Science Advisory Board Panel for the Review of the U.S. EPA's Water Body Connectivity Report

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), Water Resources Division (WRD), would like to provide comments on the list of candidates for the U.S. EPA Science Advisory Board (SAB) Panel for the review of the U.S. EPA's Water Body Connectivity Report. We are pleased to support Dr. Donald G. Uzarski, Director of the Institute for Great Lakes Research, Director of the Central Michigan University Biological Station, and Associate Professor of Biology at Central Michigan University.

The selection of Dr. Uzarski is supported by the WRD because of his significant ecological research experience, and because of the invaluable role he has played in assisting Michigan with development of a wetland monitoring program, evaluating the effects of shoreline management activities, and improving the regulatory program. Dr. Uzarski's research and participation on workgroups and advisory committees has proved essential in many ways. He has the rare ability to interpret complicated research data and statistics in a concise and meaningful way for the improved understanding and use of groups made up of people with a wide array of backgrounds. His ability to communicate both the science and the practical implications of wetland and hydrology data to various stakeholder groups, legislators, and members of the general public has been a great asset to our state in many ways. He has the credibility and the approachability to bridge gaps between the academic, government, and public sectors.

We believe that Dr. Uzarski possesses the technical skills and the workgroup experience that you are looking for in participants on the SAB. His work on Great Lakes coastal wetlands bioassessment techniques has made him uniquely qualified to provide an educated and objective perspective on both freshwater biology of fish, invertebrates, and vegetation, as well as hydrologic connectivity of freshwater systems and downstream impacts of freshwater pollutants. He also has valuable experience and skills working on technical committees and advisory panels from his participation on Michigan's Wetland Advisory Council, the Wayne State University Great Lakes Field Facility Advisory Board, the University of Michigan Water Institute Advisory Board, and as Chair of the Great Lakes Coastal Wetland Consortium Science Committee. He has also served as a consultant to the International Joint Commission and to the MDEQ.

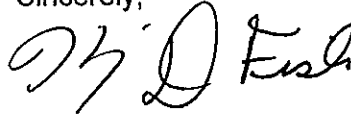
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If you would like additional information, please contact Ms. Anne Hokanson, Environmental Quality Analyst, Wetlands, Lakes, and Streams Unit, Surface Water Assessment Section, WRD at 517-241-4506; hokansona@michigan.gov; or MDEQ, P.O. Box 30458, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7958.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Creal".

for

William Creal, Chief
Water Resources Division
517-335-4176

cc: Ms. Amy Lounds, MDEQ
Ms. Anne Hokanson, MDEQ